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BUSINESS

STATE OF
RHODE
ISLAND
J. JOSEPH GARRAHY
GOVERNOR

EMPLOYMENT BULLETIN

VOLUME 27 FEBRUARY 1981 NUMBER 2

R. I. WORKFORCE DECLINED SEASONALLY IN JANUARY TO 392,700, BUT WAS UP 700 IN YEAR

Employment trends in January followed traditional patterns with sharp seasonal declines occurring in the Construction, Retail Trade, Services, and Jewelry/ Silverware segments of the State's economy, according to Mary C. Hackett, Director of the Department of Employment Security.

Preliminary estimates prepared by the Department of Employment Security in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate 392,700 men and women were employed in Rhode Island in mid-January. While the monthly decline numbered 11,600, January employment was 700 higher than that reported one year ago.

EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES REVISED

Previously published estimates for 1979 and 1980 have been revised to a first quarter 1980 benchmark. Latest figures include data on new firms, expansion or contraction in existing firms not sampled as well as non-covered establishments, and also reflects changes in assigned industrial coding caused by product or service changes occurring in 1979-1980. The differences between total employment data previously published for January to December 1980 and the revised data for those months amount to an increase of about 1.2 percent.

NONMANUFACTURING JOBS DOWN

Expected seasonal influences dominated the January employment in the nonmanufacturing industries as sharp cutbacks occurred in Construction, Services, and Retail Trade. The latest estimate of 266,500 indicates a reduction of 8,900 jobs from December.

(Continued on Page 4

EMPLOYERS: PROFIT BY EXPERIENCE EMPLOY THE OLDER WORKER

National Employ the Older Worker Week will be observed during the period March 8 — 14. It is an appropriate time for us to examine our attitudes toward older workers. It is also time for employers to consider carefully whether any lingering bias against older workers affects their employment practices. Hiring on the basis of ability, not age, is a matter of fairness. It is also good business.

Repeated studies have shown that by every common measure of job performance, older workers are at least as effective as younger workers. Workers hired after age 45 generally attain a higher performance rating in a shorter time than those hired before the age of 30.

The number of workdays lost for all reasons declines with age. Workers in every age group over 50 years lose fewer scheduled workdays than those in any age group under 50.

Workers over 45 can offer you the skills, judgment, reliability and maturity that come from experience. Your company can profit from their experience. List your job openings with the Job Bank at 277-3588 (toll-free Enterprise 2265) or contact the nearest office of the R. I. Job Service listed on page 4 of this Bulletin.

JOB SERVICE — EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITIES

	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980
Total Placements	1,614	1,785	1,768
New Applications	5,031	3,930	6,093
New Openings Received	2,430	2,288	2,947

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	% Change from Dec.
Initial Claims	14,641	28,868	— 49.3
No. of Payments	102,041	76,448	+ 33.5
Amt.of Payments	$9,031,288	$6,626,481	+ 36.3
Exhaustions	1,534	1,814	— 15.4

EXTENDED BENEFITS PROGRAM

Statistics for the Extended Benefits Program, the cost of which is shared by the State and the Federal Government, are presented below:

	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	% Change from Dec.
Initial Claims	2,078	2,118	— 1.9
No. of Payments	16,701	17,810	— 6.2
Amt.of Payments	$1,608,377	$1,663,145	— 3.3

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed
JANUARY 1981

	Number	Percent
Sex and Age		
TOTAL	26,373	100.0
Men	15,375	58.3
Under 45	11,198	72.8
45 and over	4,177	27.2
Women	10,998	41.7
Under 45	6,583	59.9
45 and over	4,415	40.1
Industry Attachment		
Contract Construction	4,304	16.3
Manufacturing	9,757	37.0
Public Utilities	1,021	3.9
Trade	2,919	11.1
Finance-Insurance-Real Estate	492	1.9
Service	3,137	11.9
All Other	4,743	18.0
Occupational Skills		
Prof., Tech. and Mgr.	2,462	9.3
Clerical and Sales	3,429	13.0
Service	1,915	7.3
Forestry, Fishery, and Rel.	1,130	4.3
Processing	912	3.5
Machine Trades	2,954	11.2
Bench Work	3,921	14.9
Structural Work	4,742	18.0
Miscellaneous	2,973	11.3
Not Available	1,935	7.3

Providence-Warwick-Pawtucket Labor Area

Labor Force-Unemployment Estimates
(In Thousands)

	Dec. 1980	Nov. 1980	Dec. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	465.3	458.6	451.5
Unemployment	30.5	27.7	29.4
Rate (Unadjusted)	6.6	6.0	6.5
Seas. Adjusted Rate	6.9	6.8	6.9

Newport Labor Area

Labor Force - Unemployment Estimates

	Dec. 1980	Nov. 1980	Dec. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	30,995	31,285	28,120
Unemployment	1,885	1,780	1,680
Rate (Unadjusted)	6.1	5.7	6.0

Westerly Labor Area

Labor Force - Unemployment Estimates

	Dec. 1980	Nov. 1980	Dec. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	13,965	13,915	12,770
Unemployment	935	810	750
Rate (Unadjusted)	6.7	5.8	5.9

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

The following cities and towns have been classified as Labor Surplus Areas by the U. S. Department of Labor. The classifications are effective through May 31, 1981. Establishments located in these cities and towns are eligible for preference in receiving federal contracts.

Bristol
Central Falls
Charlestown
East Providence
Johnston
Narragansett
New Shoreham
North Providence
Providence
Warren
West Warwick
Woonsocket

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS, AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT					PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES					
	In Thousands			Net Change From		Weekly Earnings		Weekly Hours		Hourly Earnings	
INDUSTRY GROUP	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980	Jan. 1981	Jan. 1980	Jan. 1981	Jan. 1980	Jan. 1981	Jan. 1980
ALL MANUFACTURING	126.2	128.9	129.1	— 2700	— 2900	$233.05	$215.17	39.5	39.7	$5.90	$5.42
DURABLE GOODS	55.7	56.2	56.4	— 500	— 700	266.83	248.44	40.8	41.2	6.54	6.03
LUMBER-FURNITURE	2.1	2.1	1.9	0	+ 200	206.28	200.64	38.2	35.2	5.40	5.70
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	2.8	2.9	3.0	— 100	— 200	305.88	280.74	42.9	45.5	7.13	6.17
PRIMARY METALS	7.9	8.0	8.4†	— 100	— 500	291.89	269.55	44.7	43.9	6.53	6.14
FABRICATED METALS	9.2	9.6	10.0	— 400	— 800	222.22	210.65	37.6	38.3	5.91	5.50
NON-ELEC.MACHINERY	9.6	9.5	9.4	+ 100	+ 200	312.33	298.94	41.7	43.2	7.49	6.92
ELEC. MACHINERY	10.9	10.9	11.9	0	— 1000	215.84	197.93	37.8	37.7	5.71	5.25
TRANS. EQUIPMENT	8.3	8.1	6.5	+ 200	+ 1800	309.33	308.58	42.2	44.4	7.33	6.95
INSTRUMENTS	4.9	5.1	5.3	— 200	— 400	252.47	230.58	41.8	42.0	6.04	5.49
NONDURABLE GOODS	70.5	72.7	72.7	— 2200	— 2200	208.05	189.81	38.6	38.5	5.39	4.93
FOOD-BEVERAGE	3.1	3.1	3.4	0	— 300	214.02	181.20	34.8	32.3	6.15	5.61
TEXTILES	12.1	12.3	12.7	— 200	— 600	219.98	204.40	41.9	41.8	5.25	4.89
APPAREL	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0	210.25	184.17	41.8	40.3	5.03	4.57
PAPER PRODUCTS	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0	222.72	206.63	39.7	40.2	5.61	5.14
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	5.6	5.4	5.3	+ 200	+ 300	287.04	281.30	39.0	39.9	7.36	7.05
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	3.1	3.0	3.1	+ 100	0	299.02	284.20	39.5	40.6	7.57	7.00
RUBBER PRODUCTS	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0	233.16	183.05	40.2	35.0	5.80	5.23
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.1	5.2	5.4	— 100	— 300	234.99	215.47	40.1	40.2	5.86	5.36
LEATHER PRODUCTS	3.1	3.5	3.3	— 400	— 200	154.82	127.09	36.6	35.4	4.23	3.59
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	24.6	26.8	25.5	— 2200	— 900	176.78	164.13	36.3	36.8	4.87	4.46
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	5.7	5.3	5.9	+ 400	— 200	196.70	179.24	37.9	38.3	5.19	4.68

† LABOR DISPUTE

1980 FIGURES REVISED. 1981 FIGURES ARE PRELIMINARY.
ESTIMATES ARE FOR PAY PERIOD WHICH INCLUDES THE 12TH OF THE MONTH.
COMPILED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S.BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

LABOR TURNOVER RATES IN RHODE ISLAND
(Per 100 Employees)
December 1980

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES								
	TOTAL			NEW HIRES			TOTAL			QUITS			LAY-OFF RATES		
	Dec. 1980	Nov. 1980	Dec. 1979	Dec. 1980	Nov. 1980	Dec. 1979	Dec. 1980	Nov. 1980	Dec. 1979	Dec. 1980	Nov. 1980	Dec. 1979	Dec. 1980	Nov. 1980	Dec. 1979
MANUFACTURING	2.4	3.5	2.7	1.6	2.4	2.0	5.9	4.5	5.0	1.4	1.7	1.5	3.7	2.1	2.7
DURABLE GOODS	1.7	2.4	2.6	1.1	1.7	2.1	4.0	3.4	3.0	0.8	1.2	1.2	2.5	1.6	1.1
Primary Metals	1.7	3.4	1.8	1.1	1.8	1.3	3.0	2.1	1.3	1.0	1.2	0.6	1.5	0.3	0.2
Fabricated Metals	1.6	3.0	3.5	1.2	2.2	2.9	2.1	2.9	2.3	0.9	1.1	1.4	0.5	1.0	0.3
Non-Elec. Mach.	1.2	1.3	1.9	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.6	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.4
Electrical Mach.	2.7	3.5	3.3	1.7	2.4	2.8	8.0	4.5	4.1	1.4	1.7	2.3	5.9	2.0	1.2
Instruments-Optical	1.6	1.0	1.6	1.2	0.7	1.2	1.9	2.5	2.4	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.6	1.3	0.7
OTHER DURABLE GOODS *	2.0	1.8	2.9	0.9	1.5	2.2	6.2	6.0	5.4	0.5	1.3	1.0	4.9	4.2	3.6
NONDUR. GOODS	3.0	4.3	2.8	2.0	3.0	2.0	7.4	5.4	6.4	1.8	2.0	1.8	4.5	2.5	3.8
Food-Beverage	2.5	10.0	3.3	1.5	6.9	1.1	15.1	5.0	3.9	6.7	4.2	1.5	4.9	0.1	1.4
Textiles	3.9	3.9	3.4	2.4	2.7	2.7	4.1	4.4	3.1	1.4	1.8	1.8	1.4	1.8	0.4
Apparel	5.1	7.6	5.0	1.1	2.3	1.6	9.7	7.9	7.5	0.7	1.1	1.2	8.0	6.2	5.5
Paper & Allied Prod.	4.6	4.6	4.0	1.4	3.5	3.0	9.5	11.9	6.1	1.2	1.8	1.8	7.7	9.0	3.6
Rubber & Plas.Prod.	3.1	3.4	3.7	2.1	2.2	2.5	8.6	3.7	3.3	1.2	1.6	1.4	5.5	0.8	1.4
Jewelry & Silverware	1.4	5.3	1.8	1.0	4.0	1.4	6.2	4.4	9.9	1.3	2.4	1.6	4.0	1.3	7.8
OTHER NONDURABLE GOODS **	3.8	1.5	2.9	3.1	1.2	2.3	11.1	7.1	4.4	2.1	1.4	2.2	8.4	4.9	1.1

RATES FOR DECEMBER 1980 ARE PRELIMINARY. RATES FOR NOVEMBER 1980 AND DECEMBER 1979 ARE FINAL.
* INCLUDES: LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS; STONE, CLAY AND GLASS PRODUCTS AND TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT.
** INCLUDES: PRINTING, PUBLISHING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES; CHEMICALS AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS; LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	Employment in Thousands			Net Change From	
	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT *	392.7	404.3	392.0	− 11,600	+ 700
MANUFACTURING	126.2	128.9	129.1	− 2,700	− 2,900
NONMANUFACTURING	266.5	275.4	262.9	− 8,900	+ 3,600
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	11.3	12.9	11.9	− 1,600	− 600
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	13.2	13.5	13.1	− 300	+ 100
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	80.2	84.4	78.9	− 4,200	+ 1,300
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	20.8	21.1	20.6	− 300	+ 200
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	81.7	83.5	78.8 †	− 1,800	+ 2,900
GOVERNMENT (Federal, State & Local)	59.3	60.0	59.6	− 700	− 300

1981 FIGURES ARE PRELIMINARY. 1980 FIGURES ARE REVISED.
ESTIMATES ARE FOR PAY PERIOD WHICH INCLUDES THE 12TH OF THE MONTH. † LABOR DISPUTE
COMPILED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U. S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

* FARMERS; SELF-EMPLOYED; DOMESTIC AND ARMED SERVICES PERSONNEL ARE EXCLUDED.

(Continued from Page 1)

The total was, however, 3,600 higher than the year ago figure.

The end of the holiday season resulted in the usual large decrease in Trade employment. The mid-January total of 80,200 was off 4,200 in the month (almost exclusively in retail trade), but was 1,300 above the January 1980 level.

Employment in the Services sector of the economy declined by 1,800 jobs in the month to 81,700 in January, but remained 2,900 above last January's Services employment. Contract construction jobs declined seasonally by 1,600, to a total of 11,300, down 600 in the year-to-year comparison. The Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate total of 20,800 was off 300 in the month but up 200 over the year. Transportation and Public Utilities firms, at 13,200, showed a monthly drop of 300, but a yearly gain of 100 jobs. Government payrolls reported a drop of 700 jobs in January to 59,300. Federal employment remained unchanged while State employment declined by 200 jobs and Local Governments reported a decline of 500 jobs.

FACTORY JOBS DECLINE

The number of manufacturing jobs, at 126,200, declined by 2,700 from December to January and by a similar (2,900) amount over the year. Slightly more than four out of every five jobs lost over the month were in the Nondurable Goods sector, led by a seasonal cutback of 2,200 Jewelry/Silverware workers. Leather products reported a drop of 400 jobs over the month, while Textiles and Plastics fell by 200 and 100 respectively. Miscellaneous manufacturing gained 400 jobs; Printing/Publishing was up by 200; and Chemicals increased by 100 jobs.

In the Durable Goods sector, Fabricated Metals showed a decrease of 400 jobs in the month; the Instruments sector was down by 200; Primary Metals and Stone, Clay and Glass firms were down 100 each. Transportation Equipment reported an increase of 200 jobs and Nonelectric Machinery gained 100 workers.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

Average hourly earnings of the State's production and related workers in manufacturing industries rose 48 cents over the year, while average weekly hours worked dropped by .2 hours, resulting in a yearly gain in gross average weekly earnings of $17.88, to a mid-January figure of $233.05.

RHODE ISLAND

Labor Force — Unemployment Estimates
(In Thousands)

	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	459.5	469.6	459.4
Unemployment	37.1	31.7	35.0
Rate (Unadjusted)	8.1	6.8	7.6
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	7.2	7.0	6.8

JOB BANK 277-3588
or Enterprise. 2265

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RHODE ISLAND JOB SERVICE OFFICES

EAST PROVIDENCE, 877 Broadway 277-3537
NEWPORT, 268 Bellevue Avenue. 847-2038
PAWTUCKET, 109 Main St. 722-7500
PROVIDENCE, 40 Fountain St.
Professional, Clerical & Sales 277-3579
Jewelry 277-3553
Manufacturing 277-3556
Construction 277-3559
Hotel, Hospital, Household & Restaurant 277-3559
NO. PROVIDENCE, 1951 Smith St. 231-5290
QUONSET POINT, Bldg. No. 523 277-3521
294-4505
WAKEFIELD, Washington County Gov't Center
Tower Hill Road 789-9721
WARREN, 57 Everett Street 245-9300
WARWICK, 50 Airport Road. 737-7550
WESTERLY, 57 Spruce Street. 596-2814
WEST WARWICK, 1330 Main St.. 838-6134
WOONSOCKET, 217 Pond St.. 762-9010

Printed by the Department of Employment Security